



# United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

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Landscape crews have completed sod placements along the CVC's south entrance zone. The gently sloping ramp at left and the tree-lined stepped walkway at right allow visitors to proceed gradually down the 18-foot decline from First Street SE/NE while maintaining a sense of procession to the historic building and the presentation of the Capitol's iconic dome.

## **This Week – Ongoing Work – 7/7/08 through 7/11/08**

- On June 30, 2008, a rigging crew with specialized experience in moving statues successfully relocated the statue of Po'pay (New Mexico) out of the Rotunda of the Capitol and into Emancipation Hall in the CVC. Some other statues in the Capitol will be relocated to the CVC through the summer and early fall.
- In the center zone at the west side of Emancipation Hall, a crew has begun installing the bronze rails that will surround the plaster model of the Statue of Freedom. The model is currently in the process of being relocated from the Senate Russell Office Building.
- Throughout the CVC, technicians continue final acceptance testing on the facility's complex fire and life-safety systems. This process is still on schedule to be completed this summer.
- Painters, carpenters, plumbers, masons, electricians, cleaning crews and other professionals continue to address punchlist items throughout the facility.
- Exhibit contractors have now completed the installation of many of the image panels in the Exhibition Hall (see photos opposite page). A model contractor has completed the installation of six scale models that showcase the evolution of the Capitol campus from its fledgling beginning in the early 1800s to its 15 million square feet of building space today. Also, the glass case for the Lincoln Catafalque has been installed in its central location.
- Landscape restoration has been substantially completed in the South "Egg" and along the south entrance ramp as crews have completed the placement of sod in both zones (see photo above). Tree and shrub planting will continue through the summer and early fall.
- Terrazzo work will resume in the LOC tunnel following some final waterproofing tests later this month.





CVC exhibit contractors have installed many of the exhibit images in the CVC Exhibition Hall. Above, two workers align one of the 20 photographs that highlight the Capitol as “The Nation’s Stage.” The photographs include scenes of inaugurations, lying-in-state ceremonies, marches, protests, celebrations and other events that happen both inside and on the grounds of the U.S. Capitol.

## **Next Week – 7/14/08 – 7/18/08**

- Technicians will continue the final testing process for the CVC’s complex fire and life-safety systems.
- Punchlist work will continue throughout interior spaces as crews work on millwork, wall stone, floor stone, grout lines, painted surfaces, ceiling panels, plaster work, doors, and other finish materials.
- An exhibit contractor will continue installing panels and graphics in the House and Senate History cases. Also in the Hall, work will continue to address the Wall of Aspirations to ensure a specialized fire suppressant gas is adequately contained within the wall.
- Masons will continue grout work and other stone detail work at the Rotunda and Gallery levels in the East Front of the Capitol while grout-line touch-up continues throughout the facility.
- Metal workers will continue finishing work on the interior bronze panels that border the CVC entrance doors.
- Waterproofing tests and analysis work will continue for the pedestrian tunnel to Library of Congress. Terrazzo floor installation is expected to begin in the tunnel before the end of the month.
- Work to adjust the bronze handrails in the Senate stairwell atrium will begin later this month.
- Outside, landscape crews will continue tree and shrub plantings in areas within or adjacent to the CVC entrances.



A CVC exhibit contractor prepares a text panel that discusses the three branches of government. Behind him are images that highlight the Capitol “behind the scenes,” which include images of Capitol staff, guides, police, pages, artisans, historians and the myriad other professions that are represented on Capitol Hill.